(d) No State-wise earmarking of funds/allocation is made under the scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. The qantum of funds released to the States depends on the requirements projected in the District Elementary Education Plans (DEEPs), the appraisal of these plans and approval of the Project Approval Board (PAB) of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.

Research in traditional subjects

2154. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that University Grants Commission has now started focussing research in traditional subjects like Sanskrit and occult sciences;

(b) if so, the details of such proposed research;

(c) whether the UGC circulated a set of guidelines to all the UGC funded institutions in this respect; and

(d) what are the other thrust areas that UGC is giving priority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), it has not circulated any set of guidelines to the UGC funded institutions to focus research in traditional subjects like Sanskrit and occult sciences. However, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has approved starting of the B.A./M.A./Ph.D. course of Jyotir Vigyan in some selected universities from the Academic Session 2001-2002. Out of the 20 universities selected for this purpose, 18 universities have agreed to start the course.

(d) The other UGC priority areas are for promoting excellence and quality, for making education relevant and for enhancing the access and equity in the university system.

Translation of outstanding works

2155. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any step to facilitate translation of more and more number of outstanding works of eminent writers of various Indian languages into English and other Indian languages, to help the cause of national and linguistic integration; and